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EXAMINER

SINGH, SATWANT K

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/905,506	SIMPSON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Satwant K. Singh	2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 July 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 18 January 2006.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-25 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. Regarding claims 1, 9, 15, and 19, the phrase "in a particular manner" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-14, 22, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Munson et al. (US 6,741,262).
6. Regarding Claim 1, Munson et al disclose a method comprising: receiving a user selection of one or more print options via a network service (Fig. 1) (user interface with feature categories) (col. 3, lines 9-19), wherein the one or more print options are identified for subsequent resolution (Fig. 1, feature categories 10) (col. 3, lines 9-19),

Art Unit: 2625

and wherein the one or more print options can be applied to one or more other network services (Fig. 3, network address of printing device) (col. 3, lines 23-26), the print options serving to configure a printer in a particular manner for printing (configuration of various printing options) (col. 1, lines 32-36) (Figs 1-3, printer properties) (col. 3, lines 10-52) .

7. Regarding Claim 3, Munson et al disclose a method, wherein the one or more other network services comprise one or more other printing services communicatively coupled to the network service (selecting a printing device) (col. 5, lines 6-15).

8. Regarding Claim 4, Munson et al disclose a method, further comprising: receiving a user-selected name for the one or more print options (Fig. 1, saved settings 12); storing the one or more print options as associated with the user-selected name (Fig. 1, saved settings 12); and allowing subsequent selection of the one or more print options by the user based on the user-selected name (current configuration may be saved and selected from the menu) (col. 6, lines 16-20).

9. Regarding Claim 5, Munson et al disclose one or more computer readable media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform acts including: communicating a plurality of possible print options to a client computer (configuration of various printing options) (col. 1, lines 32-36) (Figs 1-3, printer properties) (col. 3, lines 10-52); receiving a user indication of selected ones of the plurality of possible print options (Fig. 1, saved settings 12) (saved configurations selected from the menu) (col. 6, lines 16-20); receiving an identifier, indicated by the user, associated with the

Art Unit: 2625

selected print options (saved configuration appears in a pull-down menu) (col. 6, lines 16-20); saving the selected print options with the associated identifier (current configuration may be saved) (col. 6, lines 16-20); and making the selected print options subsequently available to the user for configuring of a plurality of printers (current configuration may be saved and selected from the menu) (col. 6, lines 16-20).

10. Regarding Claim 7, Munson et al disclose one or more computer readable media, wherein the making further comprises making the selected print options subsequently available for user-selection by the identifier associated with the selected print options (current configuration may be saved and selected from the menu) (col. 6, lines 16-20).

11. Regarding Claim 8, Munson et al disclose one or more computer readable media, further comprising saving a plurality of sets of selected print options and associated identifiers (Fig. 1, saves settings 12), and making each of the plurality of sets of selected print options subsequently available to the user for configuring of a plurality of printers (current configuration may be saved and selected from the menu) (col. 6, lines 16-20).

12. Regarding Claim 9, Munson et al disclose a graphical user interface comprising: a plurality of portions illustrating user-selectable print options and graphical mechanisms via which a user can select the print options (Fig. 1, printer properties); an additional user-input mechanism via which the user can input an identifier of the selected print option (Fig. 1, menu 12); and another graphical mechanism via which the user can indicate a desire to save the selected print options as associated with the identifier and

Art Unit: 2625

for subsequent provision to a plurality of printers (Fig. 1, button 13), the print options serving to configure a printer in a particular manner for printing (current configuration may be saved and selected from the menu) (col. 6, lines 16-20).

13. Regarding Claim 10, Munson et al disclose a graphical user interface, wherein one or more of the graphical mechanisms in the plurality of portions comprises a checkbox (Fig. 2, buttons 20).

14. Regarding Claim 11, Munson et al disclose a graphical user interface, wherein one or more of the graphical mechanisms in the plurality of portions comprises a data input box via which the user can input alphanumeric characters (Fig. 1, menu 12).

15. Regarding Claim 12, Munson et al disclose a graphical use interface, wherein the identifier of the selected print options comprises a user-specified name (Fig. 1, menu 12).

16. Regarding Claim 13, Munson et al disclose a graphical user interface, wherein the other graphical mechanism comprises a user-selectable on-screen button (Fig. 1, menu 12).

17. Regarding Claim 14, Munson et al disclose a graphical user interface, wherein the graphical mechanisms in the plurality of portions include one or more of: a check box, a radio button, a list box, an editable text box, a command button, a drop-down list, a popup menu, a spinner, and a slider (Figs 1 and 2).

18. Regarding Claim 22, Munson et al disclose a method, implemented in a print service coupled to a network, the method comprising: receiving, from a device in the network, a print request identifying both a document to be printed and a set of desired

Art Unit: 2625

print options (Fig. 1, menu of feature categories), wherein the set of desired print options includes a corresponding setting for one or more of the desired print options (Fig. 1, feature categories 10); checking whether a printer corresponding to the print service supports the desired print options (providing options specific to a particular printing device) (col. 4, lines 42-48); and for each option in the set of desired print options, applying the setting corresponding to the option if the printer supports the print option, and ignoring the setting corresponding to the option if the printer does not support the print option (printing devices 'A' offers RGB separation and printing device 'B' does not) (col. 3, lines 48-52) .

19. Regarding Claim 23, Munson et al disclose a method, wherein the print service comprises a print server corresponding to the printer (printing device information is stored on a network server) (col. 3, lines 42-47).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

20. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

21. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Munson et al. in view of Yanagidaira (US 6,490,052).

22. Regarding Claim 2, Munson et al fail to teach a method, wherein the network service comprises an Internet imaging home page.

Yanagidaira teaches a method, wherein the network service comprises an Internet imaging home page (Fig. 8) (col. 5, lines 43-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Munson with the teaching of Yanagidaira to put the shared printer information on the home page so the user can use a browser on his computer to set the print options for the printing device.

23. Claims 6 and 15-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Munson et al. in view of Small (US 2004/0172589).

24. Regarding Claim 6, Munson et al fail to teach one or more computer readable media, wherein each of the plurality of print options is not specific to a particular printer.

Small teaches one or more computer readable media, wherein each of the plurality of print options is not specific to a particular printer (output device configuration) (page 2, paragraph [0033]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Munson with the teaching of Small to allow a user to select print options irrespective of whether all of the printers can output the same options.

25. Regarding Claim 15, Munson et al teach one or more computer readable media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform acts including: receiving an indication of one of a plurality of sets of print options to be used in printing a document (Fig. 1, feature categories 10), the print options serving to configure the printer in a

Art Unit: 2625

particular manner for printing (col. 3, lines 9-19); receiving an indication of one of a plurality of printers on which the document is to be printed (network address of printing device) (col. 3, lines 23-26); and communicating the indicated set of print options to the indicated printer (configuration of various printing options) (col. 1, lines 32-36) (Figs 1-3, printer properties) (col. 3, lines 10-52).

Munson et al fail to teach one or more computer readable media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform acts including: receiving the print options irrespective of a printer on which the document is to be printed, the print options serving to configure the printer in a particular manner for printing; and communicating the print options irrespective of whether the printer supports one or more of the print options identified in the set of print options.

Small teaches one or more computer readable media having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform acts including: receiving the print options irrespective of a printer on which the document is to be printed (user selects/creates an output device configuration regardless of whether an actual output device exists), the print options serving to configure the printer in a particular manner for printing (virtual configuration) (page 2, paragraph [0033]); and communicating the print options irrespective of whether the printer supports one or more of the print options identified in the set of print options (output device configuration) (page 2, paragraph [0033]).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Munson with the teaching of Small to allow a user to select print options irrespective of whether all of the printers can output the same options.

26. Regarding Claim 16, Munson et al teach one or more computer readable media, wherein the plurality of instructions further cause the one or more processors to perform acts including: determining, based on the indication of the one printer on which the document is to be printed, which of the print options in the indicated set of print options is supported by the one printer (printing device 'A' offers RGB separation and printing device 'B does not); and communicating, for display to the user, an indication of which of the print options in the indicated set of print options is supported by the one printer (options specific to a particular printing device) (col. 3, lines 42-52).

27. Regarding Claim 17, Munson et al teach one or more computer readable media, wherein the plurality of instructions further cause the one or more processors to perform acts including: determining, based on the indication of the one printer on which the document is to be printed, which of the print options in the indicated set of print options is supported by the one printer (printing device 'A' offers RGB separation and printing device 'B does not); and communicating, for display to the user, an indication of which of the print options in the indicated set of print options is not supported by the one printer (options specific to a particular printing device) (col. 3, lines 42-52).

28. Regarding Claim 18, Munson et al fail to teach one or more computer readable media, wherein the plurality of instructions further cause the one or more processors to

Art Unit: 2625

perform acts including: determining, for each of the plurality of printers, which of the print options in the indicated set of print options is supported by the printer; identifying one or more of the plurality of printers that support the most print options in the indicated set of print options; and communicating, for display to the user, the identified one or more printers.

Small teaches teach one or more computer readable media, wherein the plurality of instructions further cause the one or more processors to perform acts including: determining, for each of the plurality of printers, which of the print options in the indicated set of print options is supported by the printer (selecting and associating multiple output devices with one or more files, layouts, or views); identifying one or more of the plurality of printers that support the most print options in the indicated set of print options (dialog is displayed to the user to select the output device and to configure the output device); and communicating, for display to the user, the identified one or more printers (dialog is displayed to the user) (page 2, paragraph [0033]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Munson with the teaching of Small to send the output to the best suited output device.

29. Regarding Claim 19, Munson et al teach a system comprising: a network interface configured to allow the system to communicate with one or more other systems via a network (network address of the printing device) (col. 3, lines 23-32); and a printer configuration user interface, communicatively coupled to the network interface (Fig. 1, printer properties), wherein the printer configuration user interface is configured

to allow a user of a client interface to select print options and group the selection together as a configuration associated with a particular name (Fig. 1, saved settings 12), the print options serving to configure the printer in a particular manner for printing (current configuration may be saved and selected from the menu) (col. 6, lines 16-20).

Munson et al fail to teach a system, wherein the printer configuration user interface is further configured to allow the user to select print options without regard for print options supported by a printer that the user can subsequently print to, the print options serving to configure the printer in a particular manner for printing.

Small teaches a system, wherein the printer configuration user interface is further configured to allow the user to select print options without regard for print options supported by a printer that the user can subsequently print to (user selects/creates an output device configuration regardless of whether an actual output device exists), the print options serving to configure the printer in a particular manner for printing (output device configuration) (page 2, paragraph [0033]).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Munson with the teaching of Small to allow a user to select print options irrespective of whether all of the printers can output the same options.

30. Regarding Claim 20, Munson et al fail to teach a system, further comprising: a print user interface, communicatively coupled to the network interface, wherein the printer user interface is configured to allow the user to select one of the configurations

Art Unit: 2625

by its associated name, and further configured to allow the user to select a printer that is to be used to print a document using the configuration.

Small teaches a system, further comprising: a print user interface, communicatively coupled to the network interface, wherein the printer user interface is configured to allow the user to select one of the configurations by its associated name (Fig. 5, page setup names), and further configured to allow the user to select a printer that is to be used to print a document using the configuration (associating multiple output devices with one or more files, layouts or views) (page, paragraph [0033]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Munson with the teaching of Small to allow a user to be able to select from multiple devices and multiple device configurations.

31. Regarding Claim 21, Munson et al fail to teach a system, wherein the print user interface is further configured to allow the user to select one of the configurations without regard for print options supported by the printer that is to be used to print the document.

Small teaches a system, wherein the print user interface is further configured to allow the user to select one of the configurations without regard for print options supported by the printer that is to be used to print the document (user selects/creates an output device configuration regardless of whether an actual output device exists) (output device configuration) (page 2, paragraph [0033]).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Munson with the teaching of Small to allow a user to select print options irrespective of whether all of the printers can output the same options.

32. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Munson et al. in view of Davis et al. (US 2002/0059489).

33. Regarding Claim 23, Munson et al fail to teach a method, wherein the print service is implemented at the printer.

Davis et al teach a method, wherein the print service is implemented at the printer (Fig. 1, local printer 22).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Munson with the teaching of Davis to store the print options on the local printer.

Conclusion

34. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yardumian et al. (US 6,992,782) discloses a scalable vector graphics print driver.

Dutta (US 2002/0135800) discloses a method and system for pre-print processing of web-based documents to reduce printing costs.

Lenz et al. (US 2005/0236473) discloses an identification card personalization device with web browser.

Art Unit: 2625

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Satwant K. Singh whose telephone number is (571) 272-7468. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8am - 4:30pm.

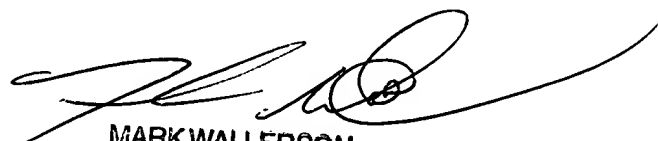
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams can be reached on (571) 272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



sks

Satwant K. Singh
Examiner
Art Unit 2625



MARK WALLERSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER